

SEPT. 17-30, 2010

The national newspaper of the JACL



**PACIFIC  
CITIZEN**

**EXTRA!**

National JACL  
Scholarship  
winners!

PAGES 6-14



**PAGE 4**

## **YOUTH LEADERS**

Young victims of the BP oil spill take a stand.



**PAGE 5**

## **TRANSFORMER**

Former 'Gilmore Girls' star takes on Michael Bay.



QUESTIONS  
SUBMITTED BY JACL  
YOUTH MEMBERS!

## **ROXANA SABERI Q&A**

The American journalist, former national JACL scholarship winner and Gala honoree talks human rights. >> **PAGE 3**



# WHAT'S INSIDE

## Q&A With Roxana Saberi



The former National JACL Scholarship winner talks about her 100-day captivity in Iran. >> **PAGE 3**

## Youth Leaders in BP Oil Spill

Mainstream media coverage has waned, but youth leaders have since stepped up to the challenge. >> **PAGE 4**

## From 'Gilmore Girls' to 'Transformers'



Actress Keiko Agena goes from small screen to the silver screen. >> **PAGE 5**



Leigh Nishi-Strattner (left) is among the many winners of the 2010 JACL National Scholarships. **PAGES 6-14**

## *The Eastern District Council Congratulates Our JACL 2010 Scholarship Winners and Welcomes Those Coming to the East Coast*

### Winner

Gregory Bennett  
Taylour Chang  
Catherine Ishitani  
Christopher Lapinig  
Jacqueline Mac  
Tara Ohrtman  
Natalie Rojas  
Naomi Schurr  
Shirley Tang

### Home Chapter

Washington, DC  
Honolulu  
Twin Cities  
New England  
Chicago  
Florin  
Portland  
South Bay  
Washington, DC

### Educational Institution

Georgetown University  
Yale University  
Princeton University  
Yale Law School  
University of Maryland  
Princeton University  
Wellesley College  
MIT  
Univ. of California, Hastings

## PACIFIC CITIZEN

### HOW TO REACH US

E-mail: [pc@pacificcitizen.org](mailto:pc@pacificcitizen.org)  
Online: [www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org)  
Tel: (213) 620-1767  
Fax: (213) 620-1768  
Mail: 250 E. First Street, Suite 301  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

### STAFF

Executive Editor  
Caroline Y. Aoyagi-Stom  
Assistant Editor  
Lynda Lin

Reporter  
Nalea J. Ko

Business Manager  
Vacant

Circulation  
Eva Lau-Ting

The *Pacific Citizen* newspaper (ISSN: 0030-8579) is published semi-monthly (except once in December and January) by the Japanese American Citizens League, *Pacific Citizen*, 250 E. 1st Street, Suite 301, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Periodical postage paid at L.A., CA  
POSTMASTER: send address changes to National JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115

JACL President: David Kawamoto  
National Director: Floyd Mori

### P.C. EDITORIAL BOARD

Margie Yamamoto, chairperson;  
Paul Niwa, EDC; Lisa Hanasono, MDC; Jason Chang, CCDC; Judith Aono, NCWNPDC; Hugh Burleson, PNWDC; Jeff Itami, IDC; Cindi Harbottle, PSWDC; Sonya Kuki, Youth

### SUBSCRIBE

Get a one-year subscription of the *Pacific Citizen* newspaper at: [www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org) or call (800) 966-6157

### ADVERTISE

To advertise in the *Pacific Citizen*, call (800) 966-6157 or e-mail: [busmgr@pacificcitizen.org](mailto:busmgr@pacificcitizen.org)

### LEGAL

No part of this publication may be reproduced without the express permission of the *Pacific Citizen*. Editorials, news and the opinions expressed by columnists other than the national JACL president or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. Events and products advertised in the *Pacific Citizen* do not carry the implicit endorsement of the JACL or this publication. We reserve the right to edit articles.

Periodicals paid at Los Angeles, Calif and mailing office.

### JACL MEMBERS Change of Address

If you've moved, please send new information to:  
National JACL  
1765 Sutter St.  
San Francisco, CA 94115  
Allow 6 weeks for address changes.

To avoid interruptions in delivery, please notify your postmaster to include periodicals in your change of address (USPS Form 3575)



# Former JACL Scholarship Winner Talks Human Rights

For 100 days last year, Roxana Saberi was incarcerated in Iran for a crime of espionage she says she did not commit.

Behind bars, the journalist who is of Iranian and Japanese descent, was not even allowed to have a pen or paper. Since her release, Saberi, 33, has traveled all over the U.S. to talk about her experiences in Iran, human rights and her new book "Between Two Worlds: My Life and Captivity in Iran."

"I think if you are passionate about peacefully standing up for civil and human rights, you will find a way to do so," said Saberi in an e-mail to the *Pacific Citizen*. "Every person's actions count. When enough people call out together for change over a continuous period of time, they can make a difference."

Before she snagged headlines for her imprisonment, Saberi, a former Miss North Dakota from Fargo, was working to get in touch with her Japanese identity. She is a former JACL national scholarship winner and an honoree at the Sept. 16 National JACL "Salute to Champions" Gala.

As a former youth member, Saberi responds to questions below about identity and human rights from today's JACL youth members.



'I would like to believe that all human beings are inherently "good" and not "evil"' said Roxana Saberi.

**Has your experience in prison changed the way you perceive yourself and your Iranian Japanese American identity? — Mariko Newton, 19, Portland JACL**

**Saberi:** I am proud of my American, Japanese and Iranian backgrounds. Of course, ultimately, I consider myself a human being, and in prison I learned that we are all capable of suffering from the same things and deserve the same universal human rights.

**What is the most important idea that all Americans should know about Iran? — Alex Honjiyo, 19, Lake Washington JACL**

**Saberi:** There are many important points I believe Americans could benefit to know about Iran. One of them is that many ordinary Iranians like the American people and want better relations with the United States. Another is that I believe the majority of Iranians would like a progressive, democratic government that respects human rights. I hope they can overcome the many obstacles to this goal sooner rather than later.

**How did you feel being imprisoned for something you believed in? — Hatsumi Yoshida, 19, New York JACL**

**Saberi:** At first, I was in denial. I didn't want to accept that I was in prison. I was in denial of the present moment and stuck in the past. I kept saying to myself, 'I can't believe I'm here. I wish I had known earlier ... I would've run away.' I also felt anger — anger at my captors, anger at myself, anger at God for not rescuing me.

Later, I gained much more courage through introspection and by meeting other political prisoners, once I was transferred out of solitary confinement. They inspired me, and I came to feel that the only life I wanted to live was one in which I acted in accordance with my conscience. I gradually became more defiant and confident toward my captors, knowing that I was standing up for what I believed in.

**How did your experience as a detainee change (or not change) your perspective on Iran in terms of human**

**rights, gender equality, or the rule of law? — Caroline Chao 19, Berkeley JACL**

**Saberi:** Before I was imprisoned, I had sometimes reported on human rights issues, but I had felt like an outside observer. When I was arrested, I was deprived of certain rights, such as the right to a lawyer (and one of my choice), the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty in a fair and public trial, and the right to tell my family where I was. I realized that these were basic rights that any prisoner anywhere in the world would want, and I pitied anyone who did not enjoy them.

I also came to know several women political prisoners and prisoners of conscience, whose only crime was to peacefully stand up for basic human rights. Some of them had experienced much more injustice than I.

Given these experiences, as well as reports of the force and violence

used by Iranian authorities against peaceful demonstrators last year, I feel that the human rights violations I had heard of in Iran before my

incarceration became much more real to me. I believe that now I am free, I have a responsibility and a desire to join many others in speaking out for those in Iran who are pursuing human rights and struggling to make their own voices heard.

**Have you gone back to Iran since your experience? — Sydney Shiroyama, 19, Sequoia JACL**

**Saberi:** I have not returned to Iran since I left in May 2009, but I fell in love with the country and made many good friends. My captors, I believe, were not representative of the majority of the Iranian people, and in fact, oftentimes political prisoners are highly admired by much of society. I hope I can go back and visit Iran someday, depending on the situation there.

**After witnessing so much 'good' and 'evil' of human spirits in Iran, what do you believe is important for you to do as a journalist and a civil rights advocate to help spread more 'good' human spirits in our society and around the world? — Rachel Seeman, 18, Portland JACL**

**Saberi:** I would like to believe that all human beings are inherently 'good' and not 'evil,' although some people have a heavier 'overlay' covering their true spirits than do others. I think that a good education (and I use this in a broad sense — not just an academic education but also an education in life) is key to spreading more goodness around the world. I think change begins within ourselves, but if more of us care about what is happening to others who are unable to help themselves, whether they are in our own communities or on the other side of the world, goodness is bound to spread!

As for me, I hope that I can do my part by keeping myself well informed, giving talks, writing about human rights and feeling compassion. ■

**EXTRA! Read more of Roxana Saberi's interview: [www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org)**

*'I think change begins within ourselves, but if more of us care about what is happening to others who are unable to help themselves, whether they are in our own communities or on the other side of the world, goodness is bound to spread!'*

THRIVE IN THE CULTURE, FAMILY & WARMTH OF THE  
JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY

**KOKORO**  
AN ACTIVE, CARING COMMUNITY FOR SENIORS  
Managed by NCP Senior Ventures, LLC

24-Hour Building Security  
Social and Recreational Activities  
(Including Japanese Crafts and Hobbies)  
Outdoor Courtyard  
Library and Reading Areas  
Emergency Call System in Every Apartment  
Housekeeping/Laundry Services

Personalized Care Services  
Round the Clock Care Staff  
Restaurant Style Dining Room  
Three Nutritional Meals a Day Plus Snack  
Japanese and American Cuisine  
Hospice Service and Short Term Stay Available

1881 Bush Street • San Francisco, CA 94109 • (415) 776-8066 • [www.kokoroassistedliving.org](http://www.kokoroassistedliving.org)



# Gulf Coast Youth Help Rebuild After Oil Spill

*BP releases a report that shares the blame.*

By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter

This time last year Ro Le would be busy shrimping in the Gulf waters with his nephew serving as his deckhand.

Now having been displaced from fishing for about four months, Le's nephew says his uncle sits quietly at home overwhelmed by his obligations as the former breadwinner.

"You don't know the stress that he goes through," said Le's nephew Tung Tran at a roundtable meeting with Vietnamese

American

fishermen. "I'm telling you I sit there with him even to smoke a cigarette or drink one beer and he'll stare at the place for like, I'm serious with you, he'll stare at the place for like four minutes. He'll do that all day long."

This is not the first time Le has had to rebuild his life. The 48-year-old, a resident of Plaquemines, La., had to rebuild after hurricane Katrina. With his wife and two children loaded in one truck, Le fled his home that was later destroyed by the hurricane.

"His wife and his kids were begging him to move, move somewhere where our relatives are and start over. 'No, I want to stay here. This is what I do,'" Tran said, repeating his uncle's sentiments. "He's been here through all this for 15 to 20 years. All the pain and suffering he went through, so now why is he suffering again?"

"In Katrina you could rebuild

back and you could still do shrimping because it's just a hurricane. But with this one, who knows how long it will last," Le said through a translator.

The fisher community on the Gulf Coast may not have all the answers about when they will return to their normal fishing routines, but new information about the April 20 accident that led to the oil spill has come to light.

BP released on Sept. 8 its report on the Deepwater Horizon accident. The investigation, headed by the company's safety chief

Mark Bly, pinpointed eight key findings that caused the Gulf oil spill. Hydrocarbons that leaked into the well and Deepwater Horizon led to the explosion that took 11 people's lives.

According to the report the cause of the accident was the result of a series of mechanical and human failures.

BP says other parties also share in the responsibility for the accident. In the report they blame Halliburton Co., which was responsible for the cementing of the well, and rig owner

Transocean. Transocean was at fault because of "ineffective maintenance management system for Deepwater Horizon."

"We have said from the beginning that the explosion on the Deepwater Horizon was a shared responsibility among many entities," said Bob Dudley, BP's incoming chief executive, in a press release. "This report makes that conclusion even clearer, presenting a detailed analysis of the facts and recommendations for

*'In Katrina you could rebuild back and you could still do shrimping because it's just a hurricane. But with this one, who knows how long it will last.'*

*— Ro Le, Gulf Coast fisherman*



PHOTO: NALEA J. KO

Deckhand Tung Tran, 26, says his uncle Ro Le's compensation from BP has decreased from \$5,000 a month to \$1,000 for the month of August.

improvement both for BP and the other parties involved."

Critics say BP's report deflects responsibility and spreads the blame among other companies.

Government investigators will now analyze the 300-ton blowout preventer that was retrieved on Sept. 3 from the seafloor. Their aim: to better understand why the blowout preventer failed to stop the spill.

"A disaster of this magnitude cannot be addressed overnight, but OCA and our partners believe there are some immediate needs that should be addressed," said OCA Executive Director George Wu, adding that the physical and mental health of the community needs to be dealt with.

"We have a long ways to go, but the Asian American fisherfolks have proven time and time again that they can make the best of a situation if given a proper chance," he said.

While criticisms of BP's report continue to circulate, community leaders throughout the Gulf Coast are working to assess the immediate and long-term

needs and concerns of the fisher community.

"The herrings in Alaska still have not returned after 22 years," said Father Vien Nguyen, referring to the effects of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. "I'm concerned about the long term. Really I know it's serious, but I'm not concerned about the immediate claims situation because that's immediate. What about the next 20 years?"

He asked if there would be a separate claims fund to help the fisher community in the future. "We don't do that then two years from now, if not already, the government will walk away and say 'it's done,'" Father Nguyen added.

As BP and others hammer out who is at fault for what is being called the biggest oil spill in history, community leaders on the Gulf Coast say they are seeing the impacts of the spill trickle down to the youth in the fisher community.

"It's definitely affecting young people in many ways from home dynamics to eating and all that stuff," said Minh Nguyen, founder and executive director of the

Vietnamese American Young Leaders Association of New Orleans.

Minh Nguyen says the BP oil spill is also impacting college students whose parents are in the fisher community.

"A lot of them [students] because their parents make a certain amount of money, they don't qualify for financial aid," Minh Nguyen explained, whose father is a fishermen in Louisiana. "So their parents have to pay for tuition. Now this situation, there're already a lot of kids who are not going to college because of that."

Le's son and daughter who attend college in Lafayette, La., are working part time jobs to help pay for their education in addition to using financial aid, Tran said. But Tran says he doubts that the Le children will be forced to drop out of college.

The fisher community, Tran says, does not need for BP to dole out more claim money. They simply need work, he says.

"You got to understand I've been to like 10 meetings," Tran explained, adding that he's grateful for the activists and volunteers who spend time and money to visit with the fisher community. "It's not making a difference. But I still go to the meetings, I still support all these meetings."

"Just give us a job and we'll do it. That's the simple problem we have throughout this thing." ■

*Second in a three-part series on the Asian American community in the Gulf Coast.*

## REVERSE MORTGAGE

*Call for a free information package*

**If you are 62 or older and own your house, a Reverse Mortgage may benefit you!**

- Turn Home Equity into Tax Free Cash
- You keep title to your home
- No Monthly Mortgage Payments
- Safe FHA Program Designed for Seniors



*"I pledge to provide excellent customer service with the highest standard of ethics"*

**25+ Years Experience as a Financial Professional**

**David C. Miyagawa Chee**

**Certified Public Accountant**

CA Dept. of Real Estate - Real Estate Broker #01391106

**1-800-967-3575**

## 61 INDIVIDUAL C-STORES FOR SALE. ALL WITH REAL ESTATE ALONG EAST COAST

33 stores sell fuel. 19 stores have additional retail space leased to other tenants. Average building size is approx. 3,100 sq. ft. and c-store size is 2,200 sq. ft. Stores are available **for sale on an individual basis.**

[www.matrixenergyandretail.com](http://www.matrixenergyandretail.com)

Click on "Dataroom"

Vance Saunders - 804.591.2037

Sean Dooley - 410.752.3833, ext. 4



# Keiko Agena: From 'Gilmore Girls' to 'Transformers 3'

By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter

There are moments in time when Keiko Agena says her love of acting can wane, but right now the actress says she has fallen back in love with the craft.

A role in Ken Narasaki's "No-No Boy" reawakened her love of acting. Acting, she says, is like a drug. During a great scene it's a high. Afterwards you're always looking for a better high. Of course there are also comedowns.

Agena, 36, says she was bit by the acting bug at 10 and got hooked. She acted opposite Alexis Bledel for seven years as Lane Kim on the TV show "Gilmore Girls," before it was cancelled in 2007. The Hawaii-born actress is heading back to television next month to play a doctor on the FOX TV show "House."

When she's not on television, Agena can be found in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo or Chinatown donning a blue wig as one of the Madeleines, a character who does not talk but prefers to dance and divvy up candy all night. It is a character that she and friend Traci Kato-Kiriyama play at Midtones Open Jam, which is organized by her husband Shin Kawasaki.

This year the Japanese American will also take to the big screen in Michael Bay's "Transformers 3," as Mearing's aide. The on-set experience, she says, may have sparked a new love for another craft: puppets.

**Pacific Citizen:** You've acted opposite Alexis Bledel for seven years as Lane Kim on the TV show "Gilmore Girls." Now you'll co-star with Autobots in "Transformers 3." Can you tell me about your part?

**Keiko Agena:** It's a small part. The best thing about it is that I play Frances McDormand's aide. She is amazing. I love working with her, she's so down-to-earth and no matter what scene she is doing, she draws you in.

**P.C.:** What was it like working on the set



of 'Transformers'?

**Agena:** It is so fun! I get to go back actually at the end of this month. One of the things that I remember the most is that they have these huge poles, it's like the Transformers ...

So to give you an eye line for the Transformers they set up a huge pole and they put a little light bulb on the top of the pole so that everybody is looking at the same thing because they're going to enter in the CGI later.

**P.C.:** Rumors have circulated online about Michael Bay's intense behavior as a director. Did you experience any of that?

**Agena:** He is definitely a memorable director. I would say personally I get along with him fine. I think he's a funny guy.

**P.C.:** Were there any on-set moments that stand out?

**Agena:** There's this one scene where they have these little Autobots and you're supposed to watch them go into a room. ... So what are they going to use? They fashioned basically a little toy car, a little toy truck actually. And they kind of paste these little Autobot looking things on it [laughs].

There are tons of people that can run this thing, I mean the props department or whoever. But Michael Bay is like, 'No, I'll do it.' He's running the little remote control car himself in the scene and just giggling, just having fun.

**P.C.:** Looking back, was it difficult to break into the industry?

**Agena:** Have I broken in? When did that happen? Someone should have informed me. I mean, I guess, that it's always a struggle.

**P.C.:** You were on the 'Gilmore Girls' for about seven years. I would say that's

pretty successful to be on a hit show watched by millions of people. Don't you think so?

**Agena:** I feel like it's a constant process. I think there's always more to do. I guess it depends on your vantage point, if that's in the entertainment industry or not. Is that a weird thing?

**P.C.:** What were the greatest moments of success?

**Agena:** Oh, definitely finding out about 'Gilmore Girls' was such a high. Even with that it's so funny. Maybe this is my personality, but finding out that I got the pilot I was like, 'Oh, my God we got the pilot! Oh, my God!' 'Ok now I hope it gets to be on air.'

I never even relaxed even during the filming of 'Gilmore Girls.' I was always thinking, 'I hope people will like the show.'

**P.C.:** When you're not acting, what are you usually doing?

**Agena:** One more thing that I'm totally obsessed with now, I've lost my mind over, is puppets. So there's this school and it's called Puppet School. I am nuts for it. It's so silly. But I'm crazy for puppets. And we're going to have a show Dec. 13.

**P.C.:** Looking back at the challenges you faced as an up-and-coming actress, do you have any regrets?

**Agena:** I am grateful for every opportunity that I have ever gotten but I feel like we are all continually striving to do great work and get great parts.

I think that every audition is a challenge to do your very best. And it's a personal one. No one can tell you that you did a good job or a bad one. On the car ride home it is always a conversation you have with yourself to determine if you are satisfied or not with the effort that you have put forth. ■

For more info about attending Keiko Agena's class puppet show on Dec. 13 at the West Hollywood Public Access theater, visit [www.PuppetSchool.com](http://www.PuppetSchool.com).

Are you ready  
for the

**Holiday  
Issue?**

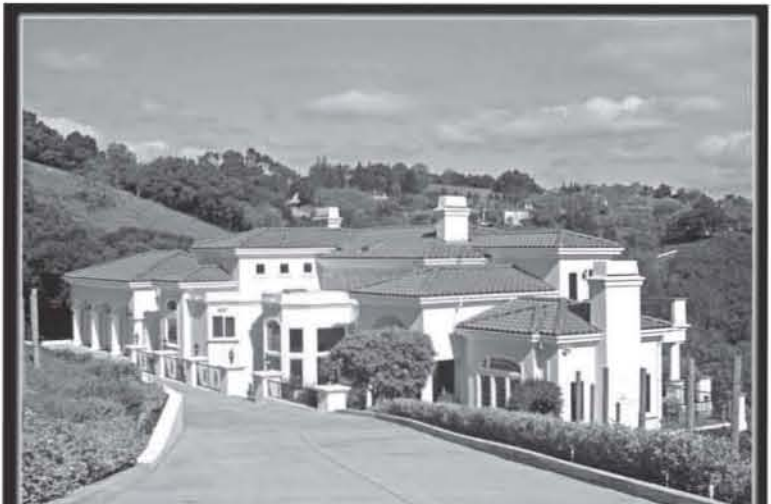
Call 800/966-6157 or  
[holidayissue@  
pacificcitizen.org](mailto:holidayissue@pacificcitizen.org)  
for more information

Happy  
Beiju  
Masako

米寿



With Love and Best Wishes from Reed & Jay  
And your family in the Fukayama, Sato, Arai, Suzuki Clans



**Hillside Estate in the  
Heart of Silicon Valley!**

Valley views. Vineyard.  
Approx. 3.79 acres.  
Award-winning schools.  
[www.ChadwickSaratoga.com](http://www.ChadwickSaratoga.com)



**ALAN PINEL**  
**Kevin Cole**  
Broker - CA  
DRE#01127612  
[kcole@apr.com](mailto:kcole@apr.com)  
(408) 805-0450

[www.KevinColeHomes.com](http://www.KevinColeHomes.com)



# National JACL Scholarship WINNERS 2010



Scholarship winner and student body president Gordon Wong addresses his peers at the Tokay High School in Lodi, Calif.

## Celebrating Tomorrow's Leaders

The tradition of the National JACL Scholarships and Awards Program goes all the way back to 1946.

That's over 60 years of recognizing the Asian Pacific American community's best and brightest. This year, more than \$65,000 was awarded to 24 JACLers from across the country. Read excerpts from their award-winning essays about their academic and community success.

Applicants were asked to respond in essay form to this question:

*'What would you do to make JACL more relevant to the younger generation of Asian Americans?'*

SEE NEXT PAGES FOR 2010 WINNERS



Monica Matsumoto was principal cellist in her high school orchestra.



## FRESHMAN AWARDS

**Paul and Katherine Ohtaki  
Memorial Scholarship**  
**Rachel Seeman**  
**Portland JACL**  
**Stanford University**



"In order to invest in a promising future, the Japanese American Citizens League must prepare youth and help them realize that they are truly the ones that hold the power and key to the door of tomorrow. Throughout history, many efforts have been put forth to stop prejudice, however prejudice is still present in society. As a youth, I have learned that the only way that we can create change is to open our minds and welcome new ideas. Learning about the past is important in order to prevent history from repeating itself. In order for the youth to shape the future, the JACL needs to outreach to more youth to create strong youth chapters, or "Jr. JACLs". My local "Jr. JACL" is called Unite People, and it attracts students interested in volunteering and learning about civil rights. It is open to all youth, not just those of Japanese American descent. This is important because in the spirit of the JACL mission statement, our goal is to 'advocate for the civil and human rights of Japanese Americans and others'. If other chapters around the nation opened their "Jr. JACLs" to other minorities, the JACL would increase membership, strength and popularity among youth."

**Henry and Chiyo Kuwahara  
Memorial Scholarship**

*Henry Kuwahara, a resident of Los Angeles, was a well-known investment and securities broker in Little Tokyo.*

**Natalie Rojas**  
**Portland JACL**  
**Wellesley College**



"The first meeting I went to in my freshman year, I was extremely nervous. Robbie, the supervisor for the youth group, told me that the youth group had not been active for years

and because she did not want the group to evaporate, so she was gathering youth who she thought might be interested in joining. When I arrived at the 'Legacy Center' for the meeting, I thought I had come to the wrong place. It looked like a small museum. There were displays all over the big room. Including the model of a shabby room with display tables, chairs, and clothes gathered. The sign for this display stated that it was a 'room of the internment camp where the internees stayed.' There were maps, barbed wire, and records and journals of all kinds. The atmosphere was gloomy, and I felt terrible sadness as I looked at the many faces in the pictures on the wall. This place was where I first learned about the Japanese internment camp of World War II. Robbie welcomed us and started talking about the background of the JACL. She told us about their mission: which was to protect not just the rights of Japanese Americans, but also other minorities living in America, so that they could help prevent the atrocity that happened during World War II from happening again. Unite People was created so that the younger people could understand this history and why social justice is important in our lives. It also provides an outlet for youth to become active in our community."

**Mr. and Mrs. Takashi  
Moriuchi Scholarship**

*Mr. Moriuchi, a successful fruit farmer, is the past New Jersey state director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farmers Home Administration. Mrs. Moriuchi, a professor of Ikebana, is president of the American Guild of Flower Arrangers. The Moriuchis currently reside in Medford, New Jersey.*

**Kaila Yoshitomi**



**Puyallup JACL  
University of Washington**

"Other than trying to find relevance in modern day issues, we can empower them by showing the importance of remembering and carrying on the rich Japanese American culture that we have. As our community demographics change from people who are of 100% Japanese ancestry, to mixed race and multiethnic, ancestry becomes less important than the affinity and appreciation of Japanese culture and traditions. If we make sure that there are still *odori* classes, judo *dojos* and Japanese festivals such as *aki matsuri* and *obon*, culture and identity is preserved for future generations. Not only is it imperative to have these resources for youth to become involved in, we have to show them the importance of sharing history with



'As a youth, I have learned that the only way that we can create change is to open our minds and welcome new ideas,' said Rachel Seeman, of the Portland JACL.

others but also providing a link to their own family history, tradition and values. In a time when cultural identity is harder and harder to define, it is important to have someone show them that there are other people discovering their own identities. This identity connects us emotionally but also gives us a chance to be around a strong group of people that accept them for who we are. The Japanese American Citizens League gives us a place to be around people with common interests and cultural values and beliefs. Projects such as the Project: Community! program through the Japanese Culture and Community Center of Washington in conjunction with the JACL help youth understand history and how they fit into the Japanese community today. We need to make sure that there are workshops and programs that help Japanese American youth see the importance of identity and culture in order to strengthen and build our community."

**Mas and Majiu Uyesugi  
Memorial Scholarship**

*Majiu Uyesugi was an Issei pioneer from Kumamoto, Japan. After settling in Marysville, she raised and educated a family of eight children during the Depression. This scholarship was established to commemorate her belief in youth and education.*



**Catherine Ishitani**  
**Twin Cities JACL**  
**Princeton University**

"Youth-oriented functions such as public parties, games, and mixers are always a fantastic way to attract teens. From my experience, young people will be enthusiastic about any event that involves food or music, and if they have a good time or discover a cause that moves them, they will bring their friends and show up again. A function that combines entertainment activities with informational speaking would be an effective tool for reaching energetic, compassionate young people."

**Deni and June Uejima  
Memorial Scholarship**

*The Uejimas were committed to the Japanese American community. Longtime members of the San Gabriel Valley JACL., Deni served multiple terms as the chapter's president.*



**Naomi Schurr**  
**South Bay JACL**  
**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

"As a high school student, I know that my fellow students can be motivated to tackle an interesting challenge if it provides a reward

**Congratulations  
Ryan Higaki!**

From the Mile Hi JACL

**Suscribe to the  
Pacific Citizen  
(800) 966-6157**

**Leigh, we are so proud of you!**



- Grandma and Grandpa



SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

"If you can imagine it,  
you can achieve it"

- William Arthur Ward

**Excellent Work!**

**Nicole**

Love,

Mom and Dad

"Keep imagining it at Seattle U!"







#### CULTURE AND COMMUNITY:

Natalie Rojas (above) keeps in touch with her culture. Lindsay Oda (right) helps clean up San Francisco's Japantown.



— especially a monetary reward. Thus, one avenue through which I believe the JACL can reach out to many elementary, middle, and high school students is through the National History Day (NHD) contest. In particular, the JACL could sponsor a special award through the Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) History Day in California competition, a competition engaging thousands of students and teachers across the state. Every year, the CRF hosts competitions in California at the county and state levels to promote the study and presentation of historical topics based on the NHD annual theme, through student exhibits, documentaries, websites, research papers, or dramatic reenactments."

*Hanayagi Rokumie, was a noted teacher of Japanese dance. This award is given to a student who excels in a Japanese cultural activity.*



Lindsay Oda  
Eden Township JACL  
San Francisco State University

#### Hanayagi Rokumie Memorial Japanese Cultural Scholarship

"Youth programs might seem like an assured way to be relevant to the younger generation of Asian Americans; however, it isn't an assured way to reach them. The JACL must seek support and advertising from young Asian American communities. Having JACL collaborate with popular, young Asian American communities will inherently make it relevant to their youth. JACL has done a good job of involving itself in the Japanese American community. However, this community contains all generations and is simply Japanese. Right now we should involve ourselves in places like the hip-hop dance community, the community of Asian American entertainers on YouTube, and the many Asian American blogs from Korean pop music (Soompi), to Japanese fashion (Japanese Streets), and cultural humor (My Mom is a Fob), which are communities of their own. These are all popular and relevant with the younger generation of Asian Americans, so putting our name next to theirs will create positive interest from potential members."

#### Sam S. Kuwahara Memorial Scholarship



Gordon Wong  
Lodi JACL  
University of California, San Diego

"I believe that direct involvement between the JACL and local schools would be a great way to tailor to the younger students. By doing various cultural demonstrations at local elementary, middle, or high schools, the JACL can make students aware of the association and what they are all about. Making students familiar with the organization can help the JACL catch the attention of the younger generation by sparking their interest and inviting them to come get involved. At the high school level, working with a campus' Asian club or Japanese club can increase youth involvement at their JACL chapters and possibly a dual membership with the school club as well as the national JACL."

#### Patricia and Gail Ishimoto Memorial Scholarship

*Established by Harry K. and Tomoko Ishimoto in memory of their two daughters who passed*

*away together in an auto accident in January 1969. Both were students at Dorsey High School in Los Angeles.*



Jenna Kanegawa  
Lodi JACL  
Claremont McKenna College

"JACL needs to continue to have a youth component at each national convention if it wants to keep the younger generations involved. The youth convention in 2009 was a very good experience for me because it was specifically for the youth, so the workshops and activities were geared more towards the younger generation. The workshops were fun like grassroots activism and sushi making. I hope the youth component at conventions continues, even after the change from biennial national conventions to annual national conventions."

#### Shigeki "Shake" Ushio Memorial Scholarship

*To assist Japanese Americans whose assets had been frozen or restricted during World War II, Ushio helped found the National JACL Credit Union.*



Nicole Gaddie  
Salt Lake City JACL  
Seattle University

"We should begin involvement at a very young age. We could have JACL activities specifically designed for ages 8 to 12. In our chapter we have a group of JACL teens called the Jr. JAYS. They plan activities and help at festivals. This is great, however we

## Congratulations Emily!



We are so proud of you.

Go Utes!  
Go Emily!

Love,  
Mom, Dad and Michael

## Keep Reaching For The Stars

### 2010 IDC Scholarship Winners

Paul Fisk, Salt Lake City chapter  
Nicole Gaddie, Salt Lake City chapter  
Marcus Heleker, Snake River chapter  
Emily Iwasaki, Salt Lake City chapter

- Intermountain District JACL

Congratulations,  
2010 JACL Scholarship Winners!

- The Pacific Citizen Staff





don't have any events planned specifically for younger children. Children feel more comfortable around other children their own age — we should make a group similar to the Jr. JAYS for kids 8 to 12. This group would be a great way to introduce them to the JACL and show them the values JACL supports. They could combine some of their activities with JACL mentors to learn from them and get to know their JACL chapter members. In addition to this, we should also promote teens to create JACL community clubs. Most teens don't know the JACL exists; by creating a club in high school, teens would have opportunities for volunteerism and the opportunity to meet fellow Asian Americans. These clubs are not limited to high school. I think colleges would benefit greatly if they too had JACL clubs. The JACL provides a sense of community that would ease the transition to college. The clubs in high school and college could meet on a regular basis and discuss emerging issues that are affecting the JACL today. Issues are not limited to the JACL. They could discuss environmental problems as well as possible solutions to these problems. The clubs could team up with other clubs around the state for service projects, meetings and activities."

## UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

### Saburo Kido Undergraduate Scholarship

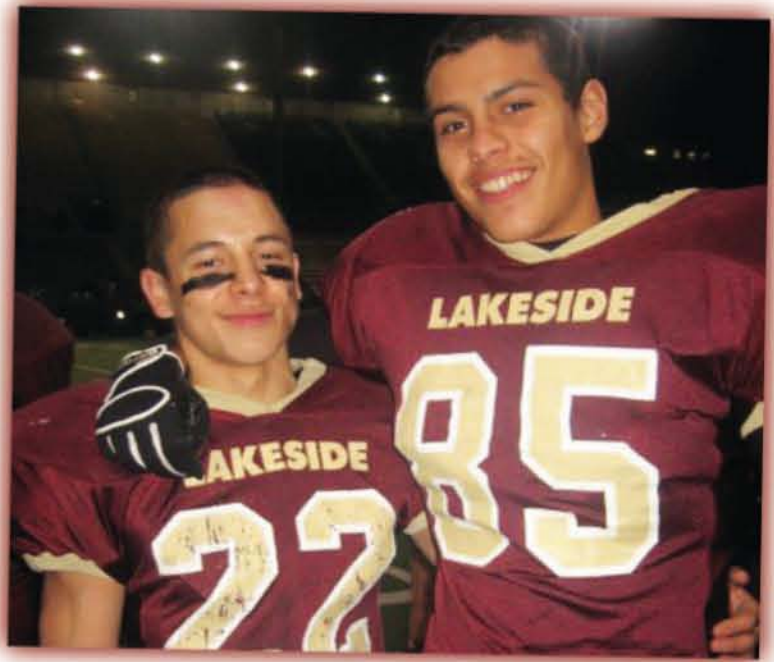
*Kido was one of the architects of the National JACL structure and its constitution. His service to the JACL spanned over 50 years.*

Alyssa Chow

### Sacramento JACL University of California, San Diego



"While Japanese Americans were for the most part unable to personally document their experiences in such monumental events as Japanese American internment and the dropping of the atomic bombs, that level of censorship no longer exists to hold them back and they should take advantage of those technologies to the fullest. Thus, in order for the JACL to make itself more relevant to the younger generation of Asian Americans, it should utilize the technologies of mass media and documentation. In an era of globalization, mass media serves as an invaluable tool, connecting Asian Americans to cultures and information from all over the world. However, in the chaotic shuffle of boundless information provided by mass media such as the Internet, Asian American culture as a prevailing presence begins to lose its footing in the everyday lives of Asian Americans themselves. This globalization is also creating a similar monochrome effect that the atomic bomb did, in that it has eliminated the geographic barriers to information flow throughout the world, significantly increasing information accessibility. This also proves difficult because of the growing number of multi-racial Asian American children who identify with multiple cultures, digressing



At Lakeside High School, Tai Fukumoto (left) played halfback.

to another entirely different issue of Asian American identity. In order for the JACL to make sure that Asian American culture does not fade into the throngs of unidentified participants in mass media, it must forge a proactive path towards securing a spot in the globalizing world, and perpetuate the solidarity that must be shared amongst Asian American communities in preserving their cultures while at the same time embracing the changes that globalization introduces."

### Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe Memorial Scholarship

*This scholarship was established in honor of Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe, the JACL's first elected national president.*



Taihei Fukumoto

## CONGRATULATIONS JACL scholarship winners!

David Kawamoto, President  
Gail Sueki, Vice President for General Operations  
Ron Katusyama, Vice President for Public Affairs  
Jason Chang, Vice President for Planning & Development  
David Lin, Vice President for 1,000 Club  
& Membership Services  
Joshua Spry, Secretary/Treasurer  
Matthew Farrells, National Youth Council Chair  
Devin Yoshikawa, National Youth  
Council Representative  
Marcia Chung, CCDC Governor  
Toshi Abe, EDC Governor  
Brian Morishita, IDC Governor  
Chip Larouche, PNW District Governor  
Kerry Kaneichi, PSW District Governor  
Sharon Ishii-Jordan, MDC Governor  
Alan Nishi, NCWNP District Governor  
Floyd Shimomura, Legal Counsel  
Margie Yamamoto, Pacific Citizen  
Editorial Board Chair

## CONGRATS!

EDEN TOWNSHIP 2010 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Alison



Lisa



Lindsay Poon



Lindsay Oda



Kelli

### Lindsay Oda

- Hanayagi Rokumie Memorial Japanese Cultural  
- Momo Kawakami Memorial

### Lisa Fukuizumi

- JACL

### Lindsay Poon

- Eden Community Center  
- Eden Extracurricular

### Alison Tominaga

- California Bank and Trust  
- Kitayama Family Memorial

### Kelli Ishisaki

- Eden Athletic Club  
- Union Bank





In addition to academic excellence, Jeremy Lee has musical talent.

would take action to address issues wholly relevant to the younger generation of Asian Americans. Such coordinated action would increase the JACL membership of the younger generation and would help to form the new generation of Asian American civil rights leaders."

#### Nobuko Kodama Fong Memorial Scholarship



#### David Fukunaga Portland JACL Willamette University

"This summer, the Portland Jr. JACL group went to the 41st National JACL convention in Chicago. They attended workshops, participated and engaged themselves because they believe it's important to them. This is a great example of how the Portland Jr. JACL created lasting memories for the youth around the JACL's foundations ... The way that the JACL is going to become more relevant to the younger generation is going to start at the local level. Local chapters that support their youth are going to see a stronger involvement from their youth. Therefore, the national JACL must do its best to encourage local chapters to engage their youth. Just like in economics, it is

impossible to achieve change at the macro level without first altering at the micro level. Results at the national level will only be achieved through work at the local level."

#### Henry and Chiyo Kuwahara Scholarship



#### Christine Fukushima San Fernando Valley JACL University of California, Berkeley

"... for just as many of us living on college campuses, strong acts of racism like the anonymous threats at UCSD may be shocking, but continued racism as a fact does not come as a surprise. This is what I believe makes the JACL relevant to young generations-though ethnic minorities have not felt the sting of blatantly denied freedom through incarceration in relocation camps, there are many more ways in which racism manifests itself in our daily lives. And every so often, something shocking happens that, on the one hand, stirs up a pessimistic attitude about how far this country has come in terms of race relations. But on the other, it makes us realize that organizations such as the JACL now have the power to condemn such actions, and will exercise that power in an attempt to eradicate them. Though ethnic minorities still face the harsh yet overlooked reality of racism, they now hold the tools necessary to chip away at this nationally entrenched problem, one small but important step at a time."

#### Kenji Kajiware Memorial Scholarship Established by Mrs. Chibako Kajiware in memory of her

husband, who believed in the value of higher education.



#### Marcus Heleker Snake River Valley JACL Boise State University

"The membership page on the JACL website is not exclusive, nor is the joining process. A person is never asked to verify their Japanese ancestry. I think that the key to remaining relevant is to continue this process of inclusion, explicitly opening the scope of membership to anyone that will join, while keeping the goals of JACL the same. The JACL can still focus on Japanese and Asian Pacific American related issues, as well as civil rights, while embracing a larger membership. The identity (membership) of JACL can change without altering the identity (mission) and I think that this is an important distinction if the JACL is to remain relevant despite the ever changing demographics."

#### Alice Yuriko Endo Memorial Scholarship

Alice, an active member of the Washington, D.C. JACL, was an avid supporter of social causes. She and her son Todd proudly marched in the original civil rights march in Washington, D.C.



#### Jeremy Lee Seattle JACL

## Portland JACL Salutes Our Youth: 2010 Scholarship Winners

### NATIONAL JACL AWARDEES



DAVID FUKUNAGA



LEIGH NISHI-STRATTNER



NATALIE ROJAS



RACHEL SEEMAN

### PORTLAND AWARDEES



CARLY  
OGATA



RINA  
MINATO



LENA  
YAMASAKI



CEONE  
NOJIMA



CAMERON  
SUYEMATSU



JONATHAN  
LEE



CHARLES  
IWATA



SHAUN  
NAKAMINE



ANDREW  
SUZUKI



JORDAN  
GREEN



ANDE  
KITAMURA



PORTLAND  
JACL

PDXJACL.ORG

Puyallup Valley  
JACL congratulates  
KAILA YOSHITOMI,  
winner of the  
2010 Mr. and  
Mrs. Takashi  
Moriuchi  
Scholarship!



Kaila M. Yoshitomi, daughter of Michael & Karen Yoshitomi and granddaughter of Keiji and Joan Yoshitomi & Allan and Rose Kishi, graduated from Cleveland High School with honors and as Salutatorian. She is our PNW & Puyallup Valley JACL Youth Representative. She will attend UW and major in political communications.



**University of Washington**

"What would you do to make the JACL more relevant to the younger generation of Asian Americans? One idea I had immediately after reading this prompt was to teach children and teenagers some of the history of Asian Americans. Members could speak at school assemblies or other such gatherings about some of the things that Asian Americans have achieved and endured. Topics such as the internment, discrimination, labor, or politics could all be discussed through the perspective of the Asian American community. Hopefully, discovering the history of their people could inspire some Asian American students to seek to advance their future. I think that many would be surprised at the amount of time and effort young people can dedicate to a worthy cause. For example, during my time as a member and officer of Key Club, I've seen just how passionate teenagers can be about serving their communities. If we in the JACL could convince teens that our cause is worthy of their time, we could begin to draw more members."

**Shigeru "Shig" Nakahira Memorial Scholarship**

*A longtime JACL member, Shig was described as a good friend, a 442nd RCT veteran, a capable accountant, an excellent bowler, and a quiet doer of good deeds.*

**Monica Matsumoto  
Stockton JACL  
Rice University**

"My grandparents inspired my interest in my Japanese American heritage, and they have taught me invaluable lessons about tolerance, respect, and responsibility as a neighbor and as a citizen of the United States. At the Governor's School Foreign Language Academy for Japanese, I felt honored to get to know Momiyama-

sensei, a highly respected former senior linguist at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo. His lectures focused on Japanese history, but his demeanor, personal anecdotes, and words of advice were more important lessons than any I could learn in a classroom. Countless other adults have enriching stories of their own successes and tribulations that would benefit all listeners — we just have to find them. Young Americans lead such busy lives today with countless distractions. The most assured way to make the JACL more relevant to them is to open opportunities for involvement — involvement with an impact that extends beyond the membership card. This involvement must be active and rewarding, whether that means spending time with friends at lively JACL events and taking part in fundraisers, or sharing ideas and experiences with senior leaders of the organization. Making these connections will, in turn, create a community, not just a collection of members."

**Sam S. Kuwahara  
Memorial Scholarship****Tara Ohrtman  
Florin JACL  
Princeton University**

"I believe that to make itself more relevant to the youth, the JACL should reach out to all Hapa in the community, foster an atmosphere in which questions such as racial and patriotic identity can be actively discussed and questioned, and continue its efforts to educate the general public about the internment. As the internment was a uniquely Japanese American experience which has helped shape the identity of Japanese Americans ever since, I feel that wider understanding of the internment would create an atmosphere throughout the nation in which I could be proud of my family's history as a Japanese American, without persecution for

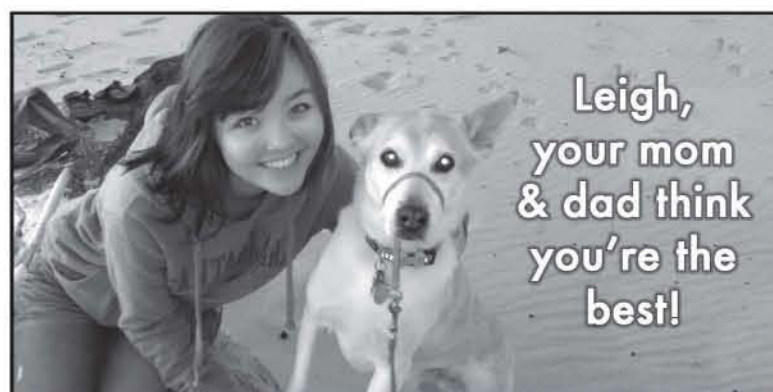
my racial heritage and absolutely free of war guilt."

**GRADUATE AWARDS****Reverend H. John Yamashita**

*A native of Oakland, Calif., Yamashita founded a hostel for Japanese Americans returning to the West Coast after the internment. He went on to pastor at the Centenary Methodist Church in Los Angeles, until his retirement in 1966.*

**Gregory Bennett  
Washington, D.C. JACL  
Georgetown University**

"I believe the relevance of the JACL to Asian American youth of my generation is not limited to the opportunities it can bring to us in terms of advocating for our rights or establishing ourselves in our respective communities. Rather, I feel that my generation has much to benefit from the intrinsic, embracing community that exists within the JACL, so that we can realize the importance of forming bonds with people who understand our unique Asian American culture, as well as develop the strength to stand in solidarity amidst the complexities that come with becoming adults in this fast-paced society. Our experience in the university system is only the introduction to much more adverse challenges that await us post-graduation. Finding a group in which we can take solace in times of distress, take shelter in the face of hardship, and take a breath of relief and joy in the arms of accepting community members is of the utmost importance to the younger generation of Asian Americans to which I belong. The JACL can provide all of these things for us and more, and I only hope to promote this fact above all other things to my peers."

**CONGRATULATIONS!****The Pacific Citizen's Editorial Board**

Margie Yamamoto, Chair

Paul Niwa, Eastern District Council

Lisa Hanasono, MDC District Council

Jason Chang, Central California District Council

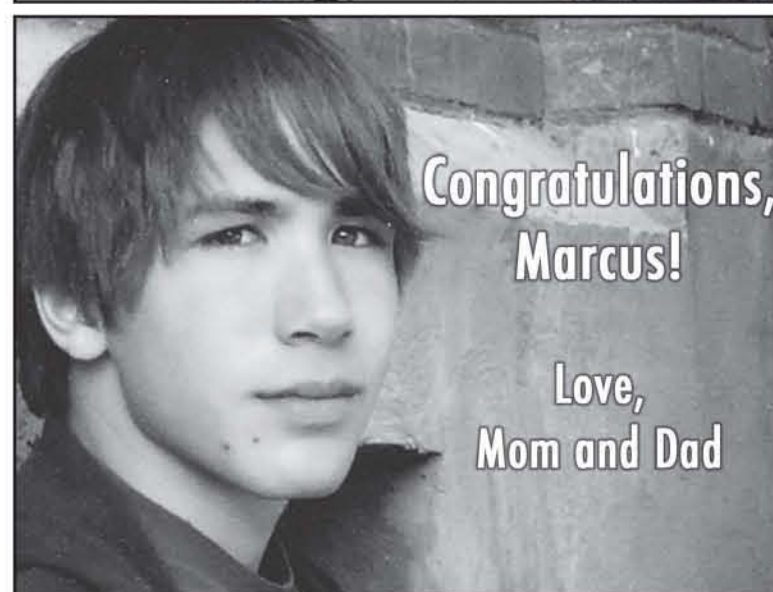
Cynthia Kishiyama-Harbottle, Pacific Southwest District Council

Judith Aono, NCWNP District Council

Jeff Itami, Intermountain District Council

Hugh Burleson, Pacific Northwest District Council

Sonya Kuki, Youth



**Congrats to you,  
Tara, and the  
other award  
recipients!**

**— Mom**



Greater L.A. Singles  
Chapter is proud of  
2010 Hana Uno  
Shepard Scholarship  
Winner, Kristen  
Deignan of Torrance,  
CA. Kristen will  
attend Cal Poly.





Check out our  
**Pacific Citizen Archives**  
[www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org)

*Exclusive for JACL members and subscribers!*

**Congratulations Alyssa!**

**Keep up the good work!**

Love,  
 Your Family



**Congratulations Kaila, we're proud of you!!**

Love,  
 Mom, Dad,  
 Grandma Rose &  
 Grandpa Al Kishi,  
 Grandma Joan &  
 Grandpa Keiji Yoshitomi



**LINDSAY ODA**

*Way to go!*

Grandpa & Grandma  
 (Fred & Ellen Shimasaki)



**Minoru Yasui  
 Memorial Scholarship**

*A civil rights advocate and attorney, Yasui challenged the imprisonment of Japanese Americans during WWII.*



**Paul Fisk  
 Salt Lake City JACL  
 University of Utah**

"I believe placing a strong emphasis on social justice at the chapter level will draw in many young Asian Americans. Many young people that I have talked with at JACL events such as conventions and youth conferences have expressed to me that they are interested in JACL because of the organization's role in standing up for human and civil rights. I was very impressed at the national convention in Salt Lake City at the number of young people who were interested in the JACL taking a stance on human rights violations in North Korea. This is something many people were very passionate about and expended a lot of energy on making sure it would pass at the convention. I think that chapters can sometimes fall into the trap of just having activities that are festivals or other cultural activities without a social justice stance. I believe that this approach often does not draw in or inspire young people to join. I know that National JACL does a lot of great things in regards to civil rights issues such as supporting gay marriage but I don't think many young people who are not JACL members know about this. I believe promoting and pushing JACL as a leading civil rights organization at a local and more personal level will draw in many more young people than just doing the same festivals every year."

**Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara  
 Memorial Scholarship**

**Emily Leach  
 San Francisco JACL  
 Univ. of Calif., Los Angeles**



"Ever since I was a child I can recall the greater Japanese American (JA) community's concern with the involvement — or lack thereof — from the younger generation. This worry was mixed with another very vocal diatribe about the role of out-marriage in the community and dilution of Japanese blood to a new generation of multiracial Japanese Americans. I am not alone in perceiving that, in retrospect, much of the lack of participation in the younger generation now is due to a history of exclusivity within the JA community and the failure of the community to change its messaging about the role of its multiracial peers at a crucial turning point in the demographic of the community itself. Today this dynamic also extends towards the gap between the Yonsei and the Shin Nisei, members of the community who tend to be of the same age, but hold very different perceptions on what it means to be Japanese American. Therefore, in order to make the JACL more relevant to the younger generation of Asian Americans, I would develop new media to promote inclusivity in the JA community and programming about current civil rights struggles akin to the work of JACL, such as the current movement of Middle Eastern, Muslim and South Asian people against unfair treatment during America's war against terror."

**Railroad & Mine Workers  
 Memorial Scholarship**



**Jacqueline Mac  
 Chicago JACL**

**University of Maryland,  
 College Park**

"I realize that I am standing at the crossroads of my life waiting to make these life-altering decisions. These include, 'Should I go for my doctorate?' 'Should I begin thinking about starting a family?' How do I find a job and obtain job security?"

... Essentially, the theme of these questions can be summed up as 'the next step in life.' The crucial inquiry is whether many of the questions can be answered by JACL, and if JACL is the proper organization to tackle these issues ... In some way, shape, or form, JACL members have already capitalized on my suggestions. However, this rebranding effort and young professionals initiative needs a message that is engrained into JACL and shared by all members. This message cannot be a simple 'we need more youth' tagline but a comprehensive strategy to engage young professionals through means by which they are already engaged — by focusing on key issues affecting their lives and conveying that JACL is the next step through technological means."

**Chiyoko and Thomas  
 Shimazaki Scholarship**

*Shimazaki was an active member of the Greater Los Angeles JACL, bringing forth singles concerns to the national organization.*



**Katherine Sanui  
 Florin JACL  
 University of Calif., Davis**

"To increase the activity and membership of today's Asian American young adults, the JACL needs to promote a sense of appreciation for the organization at a young age. It seems that sparking the interest of a six year old is probably an easier challenge than that of a teenager. This task will largely be the responsibility of current adult members. They

**UCDAVIS  
 VETERINARY MEDICINE**

**Congrats Katie!**

Love,  
 Grandma O, Mom,  
 Mark, Auntie Pam  
 & family



**Congrats  
 CHRISTINE!**

The San Fernando Valley JACL  
 congratulates Christine Fukushima  
 for winning the 2010 Henry and  
 Chiyo Kuwahara Scholarship.





will need to get their children and their children's friends involved at a young age. By embracing the age of electronics and globalization, the JACL can offer family-friendly activities such as origami folding, kimono "fashion shows," obon dancing classes, basic Japanese-dish cooking classes, and Japanese animation movie nights. This will encourage family involvement as well as promote younger generations to associate the JACL with enjoyable, culture-rich activities. As these generations get older, they are more likely to not only want to be active in JACL activities and governance, but they will also want to take an active role in mentoring the next generation doing those activities that they enjoyed so much."

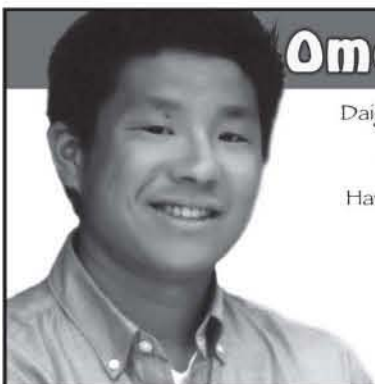
#### Magoichi & Shizuko Kato Memorial Scholarship



**Greg Toya**  
San Diego JACL  
Univ. of Calif., San Diego,  
Calif. State Univ., San Marcos

"As a Japanese Okinawan American first-generation university graduate, I model persistence and sacrifice to accomplish pioneering educational milestones for my family, community, and younger generations of Asian Americans. In reciprocating the 'kodomo no tame ni' spirit of my community elders and professional mentors, I develop the younger generation of Asian American leaders by serving as a higher education student affairs educator. As a Sansei growing up with ethnic cultural pride but with little Japanese language ability, the JET program sharpened my ability to promote learning across continents. Upon arrival to Japan, a Japanese elementary student said to me 'How come you look like me? Where's the blonde hair and blue eyes?' Learning how to respond to this question reflects the importance of developing a strong Asian American identity as a youth."

#### LAW AWARDS



#### Omedeto, Gordon!

Daigaku de yoku benkyooshite kudasai!

Ganbatte! Tanoshinde kudasai!

Have a great time in college, work hard,  
yet have fun & enjoy!

We're proud of you!

Love,

Mom & Dad

#### Grace Andow Memorial Scholarship

*Andow, a longtime member of the Cleveland JACL, was a wedding planner who later studied to be a legal secretary. She gave all of her spare time to the JACL.*



**Emily Iwasaki**  
Salt Lake City JACL  
University of Utah

"To facilitate the relevance of the JACL to the younger generation, I think it is important for the JACL to direct some activities or events directly towards the youth. By appealing to their interests and desires, I think that the JACL would be more successful in garnering youth participation. Specifically, I think it would be important for JACL youth to be able to connect with other Japanese American youth throughout the state and throughout the country. By connecting with others, I think they could build a strong camaraderie with each other and would be more willing to participate in activities or events because they would have friends in the group. In order to foster such bonding, I think youth specific activities are important (such as group outings, group trips, or group socials). For example, I think that it is extremely beneficial for JACL youth, and Japanese American youth in general, to be able to identify and connect with their heritage and their ancestors ... Through their appreciation and association with the Japanese American experience, I honestly believe that the younger generation would realize the importance of an organization such as the JACL and would be more willing and active in their membership and participation."

#### Thomas T. Hayashi Memorial Scholarship Christopher Lapinig New England JACL Yale Law School

"I believe JACL can strengthen its appeal to younger generations through greater use of the arts. Encouraged by increasingly rich minority representation in the media, Asian American youth have rallied around the arts as

[www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org)

## JACL MIDWEST DISTRICT COUNCIL congratulates

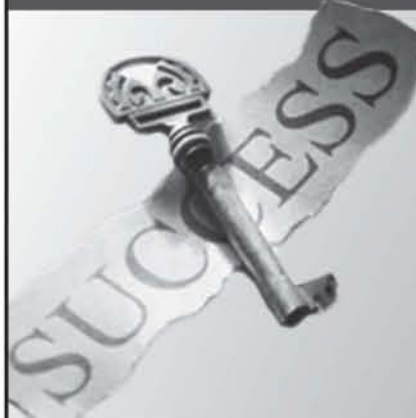
**Catherine Ishitani**, winner of the Mas and Majiu Uyesugi Memorial Scholarship

**Jacqueline Mac**, winner of the Railroad and Mine Workers Memorial Scholarship

[www.jaclmdc.org](http://www.jaclmdc.org)

## CONGRATULATIONS!

2010 National JACL Scholarship Winners



*All the best on the  
road to success!*

— Central California District Council JACL



## Salt Lake JACL

congratulates national JACL scholarship winners  
**Emily Iwasaki, Paul Fisk and Nicole Gaddie**, who also  
won the 2010 Min Yasui Oratorical Contest.

## Congratulations ...

... to all the scholarship recipients AND applicants. Your accomplishments are considerable and admirable. Your successful efforts reflect well on you, your families and your communities. Best wishes in all your future endeavors.

**DAVID KAWAMOTO**, National JACL President

**CAROL KAWAMOTO**, National JACL Scholarship Committee Chair







**Shirley Tang**  
Washington, D.C.  
UC Hastings College of Law



"Although younger generations of Asian Americans no longer encounter the same struggles as older generations, there is a commonality in both experiences. Younger generations of Asian Americans today still face discrimination but prejudices are subtly masked in different forms. Inequality in job and educational attainment among Asian Americans, discrepancies in health outcomes, the perpetuation of the Model Minority Myth, and the treatment of Muslim Americans following September 11th are all reminders of the injustices plaguing the younger generations of Asian Americans today. Highlighting the commonality between the struggles of the different generations, the efforts taken by older generations to combat prejudices, and the importance of younger generations to continue to fight to eradicate injustices and uphold the legacy of those who paved the way, younger generations of Asian Americans may be able to identify with the organization and be motivated to participate ... In addition to the

academic setting, the JACL can also foster community among younger generations of Asian Americans in a professional setting. Through involvement in young professional development groups and events, the JACL can reach out to Asian American young professionals interested in social justice. Through sponsoring young professional happy hours and gatherings, Asian American professionals could strengthen their professional networks, meet others with similar interests in promoting social justice, build a community with individuals in the group, and learn about the JACL ..."

## SPECIAL AWARDS

**Aiko Susanna Tashiro**  
**Hiratsuka Memorial**  
**Scholarship**  
**Leigh Nishi-Strattner**  
**Portland JACL**  
**Santa Clara University**

"Walking through the hallways at school, I overheard a lecture from an American History class on Freedom Summer and the fight for racial equality in America. The teacher argued that today, we are fortunate enough to live in 'post-racial' America. This comment made me recall the words of my own history teacher as he announced to our class, comprised of a half a dozen practicing Jews, an exchange student from Armenia, and two Asians, that 'no



one in the room had faced true discrimination.' This bald-faced assumption was difficult for me to swallow: Had I not faced prejudice and name-calling from adults and peers alike? Discrimination exists today, though its voice isn't nearly as raw and deafening as it once was. Our cultural identities continue to come under attack from stale stereotypes, offensive jokes and closed-minded individuals. I have learned to be at peace with my ethnic background and to find solace in my cultural identity. I have also learned there are two ways that API students can combat prejudice. One is the frontal assault — confronting people directly, and pointing out how harmful and unproductive the perpetuation of those stereotypes and beliefs are. The second approach is perhaps more powerful. Rather than perpetuate anger and negative feelings, developing a sense of dignity allows one to simply shrug off remaining reticence about injustices."

**Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara**  
**Creative Arts Award**  
**Taylor Chang**

**Honolulu JACL**  
**Yale University**

"I will be able to make the JACL more relevant to the younger generations of Asian Americans, as well as to others, as a filmmaker. My films promote the mission of the JACL 'to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry' by telling



the history of past injustices to help to insure that such injustices do not happen in the future. In addition, my films support JACL's vision 'to promote a world that honors diversity by respecting values of fairness, equality and social justice' by telling stories involving these values as they apply to the worldwide community. For example, my documentary film 'Unrecht: an Untold History of Hawaii's Past' tells the story about the internment of German Americans during World War II, in Hawaii. My short feature film 'Dark Clouds,' about a soldier whose German American parents were interned during World War II, was accepted and screened in the adult division at the Hawaii International Film Festival." ■

**Mary Reiko Osaka**  
**Memorial Scholarship**

metro.net/works

## Regional Connector Transit Corridor



*You are invited to a Public Hearing for the  
Regional Connector Draft EIS/EIR.*

The Regional Connector Transit Corridor Study is looking at alternatives to connect the 7th St Metro Center and Union Station, linking the Metro Gold, Blue and Expo Lines through downtown Los Angeles and enabling passengers to travel from Azusa to Long Beach and from the Eastside to Santa Monica. By providing continuous through service between these lines, the Regional Connector will improve access to both local and regional destinations.

**Tuesday, September 28, 2010, 6:30pm - 8pm**  
**Japanese American National Museum**  
369 E 1st St, Los Angeles

**Monday, October 4, 2010, 11:30am - 1pm**  
**Los Angeles Police Department Headquarters, Deaton Auditorium**  
100 W 1st St, Los Angeles

THIS MEETING IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO BE BROADCAST  
LIVE FROM [metro.net/regionalconnector](http://metro.net/regionalconnector)

Spanish, Korean, and Japanese translation services will be provided at both meetings. Both locations are accessible by public transit.

The document is available for review at [metro.net/regionalconnector](http://metro.net/regionalconnector).



The deadline for comments  
on the Draft EIS/EIR is  
October 18, 2010.



**YAMATO TRAVEL BUREAU®**  
(CST No. 1019309-10)



## ESCORTED TOURS & CRUISES SCHEDULED FOR 2010

Oct. 6-13	<b>Yamato Exclusive Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Tour</b> 8 days/7 nights visiting Roswell UFO Museum, Carlsbad Caverns, White Sands National Monument, Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, Taos, Durang (Colorado) Narrow Gauge Railway to Silverton, Mesa Verde National Park, Gallup.	Philippe Theriault
Oct. 10-17	<b>Yamato Music Cities Tour with Collette Vacations</b> 8 days/ 7 nights visiting New Orleans, Memphis/Graceland, Nashville/Grand Ole Opry and Country Music Hall of Fame.	Sharon Seto
Oct. 16-30	<b>Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan</b> 15 days/ 13 nights visiting Kyoto, Takamatsu, Kurashiki, Hiroshima, Beppu, Kumamoto, Tokyo.	Peggy Mikuni
Nov. 1-8	<b>Yamato Exclusive Southeast Tour</b> 8 days/7 nights visiting Miami, Florida Keys, Kennedy Space Center, Orlando/Walt Disney World, St. Augustine, Florida; Savannah & Atlanta, Georgia.	Philippe Theriault & Lilly Nomura
Nov. 29- Dec. 9	<b>Yamato Deluxe Discover Egypt Tour</b> 11 days/ 9 nights, includes 3 nights in Cairo, 2 nights in Giza, then 4 nights Nile cruise aboard a 5-star riverboat.	Philippe Theriault
Dec. 8-11	<b>Yamato Best of Branson Tour</b> 4 days/ 3 nights with 4 shows including Shoji Tabuchi and Mike Ito of the Baldknobbers, Branson sightseeing and visit to Silver Dollar City.	Peggy Mikuni

Yamato Travel Bureau® continues to be a full service travel agency. This means we sell all phases of leisure and corporate travel: airline tickets; hotel accommodations; car rentals; tours; cruises; rail passes, etc. We also have discounted airfares to many destinations. Please call on our experienced travel consultants your travel and tour arrangements. Professional memberships: American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA), Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), Vacation.com (a National consortium). Please visit our website at [www.yamatotravel.com](http://www.yamatotravel.com) for tour itineraries and travel specials.

**YAMATO TRAVEL BUREAU®**  
250 East First Street, Suite #1112  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 680-0333 or (800) 334-4982  
Email: [groups@yamatotravel.com](mailto:groups@yamatotravel.com)





## TRIBUTE

**Kiyoshi Yoshii**

May 7, 1918 – September 8, 2010



Kiyoshi "Kiyo" Yoshii was born in Oakland, California on May 7, 1918. Kiyo passed away peacefully in his home surrounded by his loving family on September 8, 2010. Beloved husband of Midori for 62 years. Loving Dad to Karen (Marc), Laura (Harry), Greg (Aili) and Brian (Catherine). Loving Grandfather to Nick and Joshua. Loving Brother to Tad (Lily) and proud Uncle to many nieces and nephews. Kiyo proudly served his country in WWII and was part of the famed 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion / 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team. After the war, Kiyo

was employed at Naval Supply in Oakland and later with the U.S. Postal Service in Hayward for collectively over 40+ years. Family and friends are invited to attend a "Celebration of Life" Memorial Service at the San Lorenzo Japanese Christian Church, 615 Lewelling Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94579 on September 25th at 2:00 p.m.

## TRIBUTE

**Alice Hamako Shinoda**

January 12, 1914 - August 23, 2010



After 96 years of an eventful and wonderful life, Alice Hamako (Fujisawa) Shinoda died peacefully at the Keiro Nursing Home in Los Angeles on August 23, 2010. Born in Los Angeles on January 12, 1914, she attended local

schools and graduated from Manual Arts High School in 1932 before meeting the love of her life, Paul Shinoda, whom she married in 1936.

By 1941, they had built a life and family, with Paul's successful flower nursery in Torrance and Alice raising a family of three children. When WWII broke out, Alice and Paul refused to cooperate with the government's orders and decided to leave the restricted military zone of their own accord. In the middle of the night, the Shinoda family defied a travel restriction and left California for Idaho, eventually settling in Grand Junction, Colorado.

After the war, they returned to Torrance where Paul resumed his nursery business, San Lorenzo Nursery Company. With the birth of three more children, Alice devoted herself to raising her children. In 1965, Paul moved his nursery to Santa Barbara where he and Alice built a beautiful home (later destroyed in the Painted Cave fire in 1990) and laid down deep roots

in the community. Alice was active as a member of Bethany Congregational Church, as a leader with the Tres Condados Girl Scouts Council, and as a life long member of the JACL.

Alice traveled throughout the world with Paul after he retired and throughout the United States in one of many RVs they owned, making life-long friends along the way. Alice and Paul also spent 18 summers on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska, enjoying visits by family and friends and delighting in teaching them to fish for salmon and dig for clams.

Alice will be remembered as a devoted mother to her six children and their families, and as a loving aunt to her many nieces and nephews. She was a warm, generous, kind and loving person who welcomed all into her home and was loved and treasured by all.

She will be missed by her children Paul Jr, Carol (John) Tateishi, Michael (Charlene Ajifu), Irene (Robert) Thornton, Roxanne (Wade) Nomura, daughter-in-law Norma Shinoda, ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by Paul, her beloved husband of 72 years, her son David and grandson Patrick Shinoda Thornton.

A memorial service will be held at Gardena Valley Baptist Church, 1630 W. 158th Street in Gardena on Saturday, October 9th at 11:00 am.

Donations may be made in Alice's memory to Bethany Congregational Church, 556 N. Hope Avenue, Santa Barbara CA 93110; to JEMS (Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society), 948 E. 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012; or to the Morning Rotary of Carpinteria Charitable Foundation Inc., P.O. Box 703, Carpinteria, CA 93014, for its sponsorship of the Tomol Play Area Project.

## TRIBUTE

**Edward H. Matsuoka**

November 6, 1925 – August 17, 2010

After a lengthy illness, Edward H. Matsuoka, passed away peacefully on August 17th. Ed was the eldest son of Itsuto and Hagino Matsuoka and lived in Brawley and Los Angeles before internment in Gila River, AZ. He attended University of Denver and later moved to the Bay Area where he attended UC Berkeley. A longtime resident of El Cerrito, where he lived with his wife of over 50-years, Eiko Yamamoto Matsuoka, Ed spent a 43-year career with the East Bay Municipal Utility District and attended Sycamore Congregational Church. He loved fishing and camping and was an avid reader throughout his life. He will be missed and remembered by Eiko, three children, Martha (Anthony), David (Joyce) and Tina (Dick), brother Ernest, grandsons Christopher and Nicholas and many friends and family.

## PACIFIC CITIZEN National business and Professional Directory

Your business card in each issue for 22 issues is \$15 per line, three-line minimum. Larger type (12 pt.) counts as two lines. Logo same as line rate as required. P.C. has made no determination that the businesses listed in this directory are licensed by proper government authority.

Greater Los Angeles	San Jose, Calif..
<b>Paul Jay Fukushima</b> ATTORNEY AT LAW Wills & Trusts Probate & Conservatorships paul@fukushimalaw.com 12749 Norwalk Blvd., Suite 111 Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 864-2575	<b>MISAO KUSUDA, M.D.</b> Psychiatry 20833 Stevens Creek Blvd., Suite 100 Cupertino, CA 95014 (408) 930-CALM (408) 930-2256
<b>Cambridge Dental Care</b> <b>Scott Nishizaka D.D.S.</b> Family Dentistry & Orthodontics 900 E. Katella, Suite A Orange, CA 92867 • (714) 538-2811 www.cambridgedentalcare.com	<b>KITAZAWA SEED CO.</b> SINCE 1917 The Asian Vegetable Seed Source for Gardeners, Retailers, Growers Request a Catalog P.O. Box 13220 Oakland, CA 94661-3220 ph: 510/595-1188 fx: 510/595-1860
<b>Alan Igasaki, DDS</b> <b>Howard Igasaki, DDS, Inc</b> DENTAL IMPLANTS / GENERAL 22850 Crenshaw Blvd., Ste. 102 Torrance, CA 90505 (310) 534-8282 www.igasakidental.com	<b>Phoenix, Ariz.</b>  <b>YUKI TADANO</b> REALTOR®, GRI, SFR <b>COLDWELL BANKER</b> RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE (602) 565-1630 yuki.tadano@azmoves.com www.azmoves.com/yukiko.tadano

## 福井 FUKUI MORTUARY

Four Generations of Experience  
FD #808

707 East Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Ph. 213/626-0441

Fax 213/617-2781

Gerald  
Fukui  
President

## EKUBOTA NIKKEI MORTUARY

久保田日系葬儀社

911 VENICE BOULEVARD  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90015  
TEL (213) 749-1449  
FAX (213) 749-0265  
日本語でも親切にお世話させていただきます。

www.kubotanikkeimortuary.com

## KAUAI COFFEE

Now Available on  
the Mainland

Call Toll-free 800-212-5953

We have a select inventory of Kauai Coffee products. We ship via USPS from Kauai, Hawaii or Reno, Nevada.

www.clevelandcrist.com

The PACIFIC NORTHWEST'S  
ASIAN GROCERY & GIFT MARKET

Quality Asian Grocery & Gifts Since 1928

## UWAJIMAYA

SEATTLE 206.824.8240 BELLEVUE 425.747.0012 RENTON 425.277.1635 BEAVERTON 503.843.4512

See Our Weekly Specials at [www.uwajimaya.com](http://www.uwajimaya.com)

**SOUP TO SUSHI**

(a special collection of favorite recipes)

New Deluxe 3-Ring  
Binder Cookbook With  
Over 750 Recipes

\$25 (plus \$5.50 handling)

Wesley United Methodist Women  
566 N. 5th Street  
San Jose, CA 95112

(562) 598-9523  
Established 1965

**Imperial Jewelry Mfg. Co.**  
Fine Jewelry • Custom Designing • Repair

11072 Los Alamitos Blvd.  
Los Alamitos, CA 90720



## Rev Up Your Savings

Don't miss out on this incredible rate from JACL Credit Union



Rates as low as

# 3.49%

APR\*

New or Used Vehicles

\* Limited time offer. On approved credit.

Refinancing from another institution or buying a car?  
National JACL Credit Union can help you finance your loan.

Your keys to savings are just a click away. Call or visit our website and apply online today!

**800.544.8828**  
**www.jaclcu.com**



**National JACL  
Credit Union**



**Blue Shield of California**  
An Independent Member of the Blue Shield Association



Health plans for  
students and young professionals  
2010 rates starting at just  
**\$108/month!**



Call the JACL Health Benefits Administrators at  
**1.800.400.6633**  
or visit [www.jaclhealth.org](http://www.jaclhealth.org)



## Helping every member of your family create a solid financial future.

Receive a FREE Maneki Neko bank when you open a Union Bank® checking account, our gift to bring good luck to your family! Choose our Free Checking account, and you'll enjoy convenient & worry-free features like no monthly service charges and no minimum balance requirements to help your family manage their finances. In addition, when you sign up for direct deposit or make three online bill payments, you'll receive a \$125 bonus! What a great way to start welcoming in good fortune.

And, with your FREE Maneki Neko bank, you can start saving for your child. Choose from a selection of Youth Banking accounts that can help your children take their next steps in life.

Visit your local branch today to find out how you can begin a prosperous financial future for your entire family.



As part of Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, one of Japan's most respected banking groups, we have specialized bankers with international business and wealth management expertise ready to help you plan your future.

Arques Avenue  
408-245-8402

Corporate Banking  
213-488-3848

Downtown L.A.  
213-236-7700

Downtown L.A.  
The Private Bank  
213-236-7012

Gardena  
310-354-4700

Irvine  
949-250-0580

Japan Center  
415-202-0350

Little Tokyo  
213-972-5500

Montebello  
323-726-0081

Palo Alto  
650-941-2000

S. Gardena  
310-532-5522

San Francisco Main  
415-765-3434

San Francisco Main  
The Private Bank  
415-705-7188

San Jose Main  
408-279-7400

San Mateo Main  
650-342-9411

Stockton  
209-466-2315

Sunnyvale  
408-738-4900

Torrance  
310-373-8411

West Fresno  
559-233-0591

West L.A.  
310-391-0678



**UnionBank®**  
Invest in you®



Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ

(1) While supplies last. Limit one Maneki Neko bank per new account. (2) To qualify for the \$125 bonus, open a Union Bank Free Checking account or any other personal checking account by 10/29/10 and establish one qualifying service. Qualifying services include an ongoing monthly direct deposit of \$100 or more, OR 3 Union Bank online bill payments each month to three different payees, beginning the month after account opening. Minimum opening deposit \$100. The \$125 bonus will be deposited by 1/31/11 into the personal checking account, which must be active and in good standing. Limit one offer per household. Not valid with other offers. As required by law, bonuses must be reported as interest paid and requires Form 1099-INT be sent for tax purposes by 2/15/12. Available for personal accounts only. Other charges, such as overdraft fees, will still apply.

Visit us at [unionbank.com](http://unionbank.com) ©2010 Union Bank, N.A.

**FDIC**